

Message Text

PAGE 01 BONN 06151 301432 Z

51

ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 EURE-00

NSC-10 PRS-01 USIE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

SAJ-01 MBFR-02 GAC-01 ACDA-10 L-03 PM-03 DODE-00 EB-03

OMB-01 CIEP-01 STR-01 TRSE-00 NEA-06 RSR-01 /080 W
----- 067027

O R 301335 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4740

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BONN 6151

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, GW

SUBJECT: BRANDT PRESS BACKGROUNDER ON U. S. TRIP

BEGIN SUMMARY: ON APRIL 27, CHANCELLOR BRANDT GAVE A BACKGROUND BRIEFING TO ABOUT TWENTY US JOURNALISTS IN WHICH HE ANSWERED QUESTIONS MAINLY ABOUT SUBJECTS LIKELY TO BE DISCUSSED IN WASHINGTON. SUBJECTS COVERED INCLUDE: US- EUROPEAN RELATIONS, THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BREZHNEV' S VISIT TO BONN AND BRANDT' S VISIT TO WASHINGTON, THE CHANCELLOR' S ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE FUTURE OF NATO AND THE PROSPECTS OF DETENTE IN EUROPE. THE CHANCELLOR IN HIS STATEMENTS DID NOT ESSENTIALLY BREAK NEW GROUND AND, PARTICULARLY ON SENSITIVE SUBJECTS, WAS OBVIOUSLY CONCERNED TO MAINTAIN A CERTAIN RESERVE AND
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BONN 06151 301432 Z

AVOID PUBLIC COMMITMENT PRIOR TO HIS MEETINGS WITH THE PRESIDENT. THIS MESSAGE SUMMARIZES SOME OF THE PERTINENT POINTS IN THE CHANCELLOR' S BRIEFING. END SUMMARY.

1. US- EUROPEAN RELATIONS. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTIONER

WHO POINTED OUT THE FRUSTRATION AMERICAN POLITICIANS SOMETIMES FEEL WITH THE SLOWNESS OF PROGRESS TOWARDS EUROPEAN INTEGRATION, BRANDT IN EFFECT ASKED FOR PATIENCE AND UNDERSTANDING AND SAID THAT THE US WOULD BE WELL ADVISED TO LOOK TO THE FUTURE RATHER THAN THE PAST. HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL FOR US- EUROPEAN RELATIONS IF THE US WERE TO REGARD EUROPEAN UNIFICATION AS HAVING PROGRESSED A BIT FARTHER THAN IT IN FACT HAS DONE. " IT WOULD PAY FOR THE LEADING POWER OF THE WESTERN WORLD," BRANDT SAID, " TO ORIENT ITSELF MORE TOWARDS THE FUTURE THAN TOWARDS THE PAST. AND THE FUTURE, SO FAR AS THIS PART OF THE WORLD IS CONCERNED, IS A UNIFIED EUROPE."

2. INSTITUTIONALIZED LINK. BRANDT SAID THAT THE IDEA OF AN " INSTITUTIONALIZED OR ORGANIC LINK" BETWEEN THE US AND THE EEC, WHICH HE HAD RAISED DURING HIS VISITS TO WASHINGTON IN THE SPRING OF 1970 AND 1971, HAD BEEN SOMEWHAT OVERTAKEN BY EVENTS. HE ADDED THAT THE TIME WAS NOW PAST WHEN THE GERMAN CHANCELLOR COULD PRESENT AN INDIVIDUAL POSITION ON THIS MATTER.

3. KISSINGER'S SPEECH BRANDT SAID HE DID NOT WANT TO MAKE A PUBLIC STATEMENT ON THE SPEECH BUT RATHER WISHED TO RESERVE HIS THOUGHTS ON IT FOR THE MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT NIXON. HE CALLED IT AN " INTERESTING CONTRIBUTION" AND TOOK NOTE OF THE EMPHASIS WITH WHICH DR. KISSINGER STATED THAT THE SPEECH WAS MADE WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE PRESIDENT.

4. TRADE RELATIONS. IN COMMENTING ON THE FORTHCOMING ROUND OF TRADE NEGOTIATIONS, BRANDT NOTED THAT THE US WAS PREPARING ITS PROPOSALS AND SAID THAT THE EUROPEANS WERE PREPARING THEIRS ON A COMMUNITY BASIS. THUS, HE SAID, RELATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND EUROPE IN THIS AREA LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BONN 06151 301432 Z

WOULD BE THAT OF " PARTNERS AND COMPETITORS AT THE SAME TIME."

5. NATO'S FUTURE. ASKED ABOUT HIS VIEWS OF THE PROSPECTS FOR THE WITHERING AWAY OF MILITARY ALLIANCES, BRANDT RECOGNIZED THAT THERE WERE SOME WHO THOUGHT THAT DETENTE WOULD MAKE THIS POSSIBLE BUT SAID THAT HE HIMSELF DISAGREED WITH THEM. HE SAID: " I THINK IT IS NECESSARY TO GO ON WITH NATO AND WITH A SUBSTANTIAL US CONTRIBUTION TO NATO BECAUSE ONLY ON THAT BACKGROUND, APART FROM OTHER THINGS, CAN WE HAVE A CHANCE TO NEGOTIATE SO WE GET A MUTUALLY BALANCED FORCES REDUCTION." BRANDT SAID THAT IN HIS VIEW A " EUROPEAN PEACE ORDER" DID NOT REQUIRE A WITHERING AWAY OF THE MILITARY

ALLIANCES BUT COULD BE BUILT AS A KIND OF SUPERSTRUCTURE ON TOP OF THEM.

6. US- FRG BILATERAL RELATIONS. ANTI- AMERICANISM IN THE FRG. BRANDT SAID HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER THIS SUBJECT WOULD ARISE DURING HIS TALKS IN WASHINGTON BUT THAT HE WOULD BE GLAD TO ANSWER QUESTIONS IF THERE WERE ANY. HE THOUGHT THAT ANTI- AMERICANISM IN THE FRG, LIKE ALLEGED RADICALISM IN THE SPD, HAD BEEN GREATLY EXAGGERATED, IN PART BY THE OPPOSITION FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES. HE CONCEDED THAT THERE WERE OCCASIONALLY VOICES IN THE FRG CRITICAL OF THIS OR THAT ASPECT OF AMERICAN POLICY BUT SAID THAT THERE WAS LESS OF THIS HERE THAN ELSEWHERE.

7. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BRANDT'S WASHINGTON VISIT AND BREZHNEV'S VISIT TO FRG. ASKED WHETHER HIS TRIP TO WASHINGTON DID NOT SERVE A " COSMETIC PURPOSE" IN VIEW OF THE FORTHCOMING VISIT OF CHAIRMAN BREZHNEV TO BONN, BRANDT REPLIED IN THE NEGATIVE. HOWEVER, HE UNDERSTOOD THAT BREZHNEV WOULD ALSO SOON BE VISITING THE US, AND HE ADDED THAT IT WAS USEFUL FOR HIM TO BE ABLE TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT NIXON BEFOREHAND. THUS, BRANDT SAID, ALTHOUGH HE WOULD NOT NECESSARILY HAVE PRESSED FOR A MEETING AT THIS TIME, THE TIMING WAS IN FACT ALMOST IDEAL.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 BONN 06151 301432 Z

8. INFLATION. ONE QUESTIONER ASKED WHETHER BRANDT INTENDED TO TALK TO PRESIDENT NIXON ABOUT INFLATION AND WHETHER HE SAW ANYTHING THAT THE NATIONS COULD DO TO COMBAT INFLATION. BRANDT ANSWERED THAT HE THOUGHT IT NOT ONLY POSSIBLE BUT ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY FOR SOMETHING TO BE DONE IN COMMON. HE ADDED THAT, FOR THE FRG, COOPERATION WOULD HAVE TO START IN EUROPE BECAUSE THE ECONOMY OF THE FRG WAS MORE CLOSELY TIED TO THOSE OF THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY. HE NOTED THAT THE PROGRAM AGREED UPON LAST AUTUMN HAD NOT LED TO CONVINCING RESULTS. HE SAID HE HAD HOPED THE USE WOULD HAVE GREATER SUCCESS AND PROVIDE A " CERTAIN GUIDANCE" TO THE EUROPEANS BUT THE RESULTS IN THE US HAD NOT BEEN AS GOOD AS THE EUROPEANS HAD HOPED. IN ANY CASE IT WAS NECESSARY AND WOULD BE VERY USEFUL TO HAVE AN EXCHANGE ON THIS SUBJECT.

9. WATERGATE. IN RESPONSE TO TWO QUESTIONS, BRANDT SAID HE DID NOT THINK WATERGATE WOULD HAVE ANY EFFECT ON HIS VISIT AND HE DID NOT INTEND TO COMMENT ON WHAT WAS AN INTERNAL AFFAIR OF ANOTHER COUNTRY.

10. NEAR EAST. BRANDT MENTIONED THAT HE WOULD CER-

TAINLY WISH TO DISCUSS NEAR EASTERN QUESTIONS WITH THE
PRESIDENT AND THAT HE INTENDED ALSO TO TALK ABOUT THE
STATUS OF PREPARATIONS FOR A CSCE AS WELL AS THE STATUS
OF PREPARATORY TALKS IN VIENNA ON MBFR.
CASH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
NMAFVVZCZ
<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 07 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BONN06151
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730460/abqceefi.tel
Line Count: 169
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS ONLY
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08-Aug-2001 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <10-Sep-2001 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980205
Subject: SUBJECT.
TAGS: PFOR, US
To: STATE INFO LONDON
MOSCOW
PARIS
BERLIN
NATO BRUSSELS
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

